



PC10491A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

TECH CENTER 1600/2300

JAN 04 2002

RECEIVED

IN RE APPLICATION OF: NOE, ET AL. : Examiner: MCKENZIE, T.
SERIAL NO.: 09/635,433 : Unit: 1624
FILED: AUGUST 10, 2000 :
FOR: SELECTIVE INHIBITION OF
AGGREGANASE IN OSTEOARTHRITIS
TREATMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT

This document responds to the Office Action in the above case mailed June 27, 2001, requiring a response by September 27, 2001.

A Petition for a three-month extension of time accompanies this document. If such Petition is granted the period in which to respond will expire on December 27, 2001.

Please amend the application as follows:

CLEAN COPY - ENTER

In the Claims:

Please replace Claim 16 with the following claim:

16. (Twice amended) A method for treating a medical condition of the type that is characterized by the destruction of articular cartilage; wherein said medical condition comprises joint injury, reactive arthritis, acute pyrophosphate arthritis (pseudogout), psoriatic arthritis, osteoarthritis or juvenile rheumatoid arthritis; in a mammalian subject, which method comprises administering to the subject having said condition a therapeutically effective amount of a small molecule having a molecular weight of under 2000 grams/mole, wherein the small molecule exhibits an aggrecanase IC₅₀ of less than about 20 nM, said aggrecanase IC₅₀ measured by an aggrecanase chondrocyte assay.

BT Sub 01

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE - DO NOT ENTER

In the Claims:

Please replace Claim 16 with the following claim: